

### Abstract Of The Disclosure

5 A protective layer which is relatively permeable for  $\text{CO}_2$  and relatively impermeable for  $\text{SO}_2$  is designed so as to yield a reduced penetration time for  $\text{CO}_2$  molecules. The protective layer is composed of a gas-permeable carrier made of a material which is resistant to sulfuric acid media such as  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_3$ , has a surface that can be exposed to a gas and is provided with an oxidizing agent whose oxidation potential is sufficient to oxidize  $\text{SO}_2$ .